U.S. Appln. No.: 10/584,060 Atty. Docket No.: P71302US0

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim $\frac{1}{2}$, wherein the flat structural member includes at least one veneer sheet with a resin film, and with a separating material provided on both sides thereof, and wherein the member heating step is treated effected in a device that supplies the heat.
- 3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the flat structural member includes at least two of the veneer sheets each covered by the separating material, and each of the veneer sheets is connected to an intermediate layer of a core material.
- 4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein a fabric is arranged between the core material and the respective veneer sheet.

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- 5. (Currently amended) A fire-retardant flat structural member, produced according to claim \pm 12, wherein on at least one side thereof the veneer is covered by a resin film and on both sides thereof the veneer is covered by a separating material.
- 6. (Previously presented) The fire-retardant flat structural member according to claim 5, wherein at least two veneer sheets are configured as a composite body with a core located therebetween.
- 7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the separating material is at least one of a release paper and a release foil.
- 8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the member is treated in device is at least one of a heating press and an autoclave.
- 9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the fabric is a fiber fabric.
- 10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the fabric is resin-impregnated.

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- 11. (Previously presented) The member according to claim 5, wherein the separating material is at least one of a release paper and a release foil.
- 12. (Currently amended) A method of producing a fire-retardant flat structural member comprising the steps of:

heating a veneer sheet <u>having pores</u> so as to remove water from the pores thereof, <u>the water that is removed being in a</u> vapor phase; and

providing a resin within the pores, the resin that is provided being in a liquid phase,

the steps of heating and providing the resin being effected under an applied pressure such that the vapor phase water that is removed from the veneer sheet draws the liquid resin into the pores thereof.

13. (Canceled)

- 14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the applied pressure is from 0.5 to 7 bar.
- 15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the fire-retardant flat structural member is produced over a period of time of from 10 to 120 minutes.

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- 16. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein the liquid resin is drawn from a resin film disposed on the veneer sheet.
- 17. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein the vapor phase water that is removed from the veneer sheet draws the liquid resin into the pores by capillary action.
- 18. (New) A fire-retardant flat structural member, produced according to the method of claim 12.
- 19. (New) The fire-retardant flat structural member according to claim 18, wherein the liquid resin is drawn from a resin film disposed on the veneer sheet.
- 20. (New) A fire-retardant flat structural member comprising:

a veneer sheet having pores (i) from which water has been removed as a vapor phase by heating the veneer sheet under an applied pressure and (ii) that are subsequently provided with a liquid resin drawn from a resin film initially disposed on the veneer sheet under the applied pressure by action of the vapor phase water drawing the liquid resin into the pores.